2151

OIPE JC88 MAR 3 1 2003 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL FORM		Application Number	10/027,163
		Filing Date	12/20/01
		First Named Inventor	Couts, Jeffrey et al.
		Group Art Unit	2151
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in this Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	PF02257NA

"The date stamp hereon is an acknowledgment that on the date stamped, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office received the following:"

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
 - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/Declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Documents
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
 - ☐ Response to Missing Parts Under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-Related papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CDs

Remarks

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group {Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter with appropriate copies
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
 - ☐ Response to Restriction Requirement
 - ☐ Associate Power of Attorney
 - ☐ RCE

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual	Hisashi D. Watanabe	Registration No.	37,465
Signature	Hisashi D. Watanabe		
Date	3/25/03		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage thereon, as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on the date listed below:

Typed or printed name	Jennifer Magness		
Signature	Jennifer Magness	Date	3/25/03

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TRANSMITTAL FORM		Application Number	10/027,163
		Filing Date	12/20/01
		First Named Inventor	Couts, Jeffrey et al.
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Remarks

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Typed or printed name	Jennifer Magness		
Signature	Jennifer Magness	Date	3/25/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Couts, Jeffrey et al.	Group Art Unit:	2151
Application No.:	10/027,163	Examiner:	
Date Filed:	12/20/01	Docket No.:	PF02257NA
Title:	System and Method for Responding to a Communication Message with a Canned Reply		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and/or subsequently identified herein, are being submitted herewith for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

I. COPIES

a. ☒ A legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patents; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, is included herewith.

b. ☐ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on PTO/SB/08 which are not enclosed herewith were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120:

U.S. Serial Number — U.S. Filing Date

II. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. ☒ Except as may be indicated below in (b) of this section, all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

b. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ☐ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

III. ☐ CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this (these) applications to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. §122.

Serial No. — Filing Date — Art Unit

FEES

IV. ☐ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b): (check one box)

a. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required.

b. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.

c. ☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required.

d. ☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.

V. ☒ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c): (check one box)

before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)).

a. ☐ No statement; therefore, charge deposit account 50-2117 the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

b. ☒ See the statement below. No fee is required.

VI. ☐ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d):
on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following:
1) a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) as provided below; and
2) charge deposit account 50-2117 the petition fee set forth in §1.17(p).

VII. ☒ STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) (check only one box, if applicable)
The undersigned hereby states that
a.☒ each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of IDS; or
b.☐ no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and to knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or
c.☐ some of the items of information contained in the IDS were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES
☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the above-identified fee(s).
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2117 in the amount of $180.00 for the above-indicated fee(s).
☒ If Applicant has overlooked any additional fees, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account 50-2117.
☒ Two Copies of this paper are attached for Deposit Account charges and debits.

The above references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in a combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted
Couts, Jeffrey et al.

Hisashi D. Watanabe 03/25/03
Hisashi D. Watanabe
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 37,465
Tel. (847) 523-2322

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Enclosures:
☒ PTO/SB/08
☒ References
☒ Foreign Search Report
☐ Other:

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box. FORM PTO/SB/08

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				*Complete if Known*	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				**Application Number**	10/027,163
				Filing Date	12/20/01
				First Named Inventor	Couts, Jeffrey et al.
				Group Art Unit	2151
(*use as many sheets as necessary*)				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	PF02257NA

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. [1]	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code[2] (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,677,663		Szlam	06-30-1987	
		5,479,476	A	Finke-Anlauff	12-26-1995	
		5,559,860	A	Mizikovsky	09-24-1996	
		5,579,375	A	Ginter	11-26-1996	
		6,005,870	A	Leung et al.	12-21-1999	
		6,147,977	A	Thro et al.	11-14-2000	
		6,249,815	B1	Foladare et al.	06-19-2001	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. [1]	Foreign Patent Document Office[3]	Number[4]	Kind Code[2] (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation, if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] Unique citation designation number. [2] See Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.